agency. And the Zilla Parishad being an elected body, other elected Members are also there. So, there is a proper coordination. But unfortunately, some States have not made the Chairman of the Zilla Parishad, the Chairman of the DRDA. In some places, they have appointed the District Collector as the Chairman of the DRDA; and, in some places, the District Revenue Officer is the Chairman of the DRDA. We are pursuing with the State Governments in this regard. We have told them that wherever elected bodies are there, the Chairman of the Zilla Parishad body should become the Chairman of the DRDA so that there is effective coordination between the elected people and the official machinery.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

M.C.D. Elections

*143. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the request from the Chief Minister of Delhi for holding M.C.D. Elections in the month of February instead of March, 2002 on account of annual examination of students, was rejected by him on the ground of paucity of security staff;

(b) if so, what is the number of security staff required for managing M.C.D. Elections in Delhi; and

(c) whether he had received any suggestion for requisition of forces from other States like Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh where elections were not held during the month of February and if so, what action he had taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) In accordance with sub-section (1) of section 7 of "the Municipal Corporation Act, 1957", the responsibility for the conduct of all elections to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi is vested in the Election Commission to the National Capital Territory of Delhi. The said Commission had initially proposed to hold the elections to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi on 21st February, 2002 subject to the condition that the Central Government placed at the disposal of the

Commission, *inter ala*, adequate number of police personnel in order to ensure that the elections were held smoothly and peacefully. The Chief Minister of Delhi had also suggested that the elections to the Corporation might be held on 21st February, 2002. The Central Government did not, however, consider it possible to spare during the month of February, 2002 any additional Para Military Force for the said purpose in view of heavy commitment of such Force in connection with Assembly elections in four other States.

(b) Delhi Police have projected a requirement of 35 Coys of Central Para Military Force to assist them in conducting the ensuing elections to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi.

(c) The overall availability of the Force was kept in view before the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi was advised that it was not possible to spare any additional Force during the month of February for conducting the Municipal Elections.

1000 MW coal based power plant in Karnataka

*144. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to set up 1000 MW coal based power plant in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details of the technical feasibility study conducted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SURESH PRABHU): (a) and (b) On the basis of a request from the Government of Karnataka, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) carried out a pre-feasibility exercise in May, 2001 for setting up a 2000 MW coal/ Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) based power project near Karwar in Karnataka and it was found to be a non-viable option to take up such a project at Karwar either with coal or LNG as fuel. NTPC also examined a site in Brahmavar Sub-Taluk, Udupi Taluk and District in June, 2001 but did not find it suitable. Further, the request of Government of Karnataka for NTPC's participation for implementation of Vijayanagar power project as a joint Venture was examined by NTPC, but was not found techno-economically suitable.